

REMARKS

Claims 60 and 64 are amended. Claims 45-85 are pending.

In the office action, the drawings were objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a).

Figure 1 is amended to correct the reference numeral for the spring sensor to "8", as per page 9, lines 13-15 of the specification.

This amendment to the figure is based on the application as originally filed, and no new matter is added.

It is respectfully submitted that the drawings comply with 37 CFR 1.83(a), as described below in connection with the claims. The "hydraulic actuation system" not shown recited in claim 45 is described on page 10, lines 13-20 in connection with an hydraulic piston for moving the exchanger 22 in the direction of the double-headed arrow D along travel guides 23 shown in Figure 3. The "load cell system" not shown recited in claim 53 is described on page 10, lines 3-5 in connection with the plate 6 shown in Figure 1.

The "second heater" recited in claim 61 is described on page 11, lines 3-5, and page 16, lines 23-25 in connection with the production of steam using the claimed apparatus. The "filtering system" recited in claim 66 is described on page 7, lines 1-6. The "filter" recited in claim 58 is described on page 6, lines 2-6 in connection with the point of water intake, such as the connector 18 for water shown in Figure 2. The "serial port" recited in claim 71 is shown as an electrical connector 20 in Figure 2 and described on page 10, lines 7-8. Such features are described in the specification and are well-known in the art.

Accordingly, there is sufficient disclosure of the recited elements of the claims

in the specification and drawings as filed, and reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is respectfully requested.

In the office action, claim 64 was objected to for containing trademarks or tradenames. The examiner alleges that "the presence of these Trademarks is not allowed". The applicant refers the examiner to MPEP 608.01(v), which states that the use of trademarks or tradenames are permissible in patent applications, including claims. The trademarks and product identifications used in claim 64 are sufficiently described on page 5, lines 6-11, and are well-known in the literature and to those of ordinary skill in the art. In addition, claim 64 is amended to include a generic description of the trademark products, based on page 5, lines 6-11. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to claim 64 is respectfully requested.

In the office action, it was stated that the application does not contain an abstract. An abstract has been added in compliance with the examiner's requirement. The Abstract is based on the abstract found in the PCT application.

In the office action, claims 45-77, 84, and 85 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims comply with 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. In particular, hydraulic circuits and electrical circuits governed by software and/or other control means, such as recited in claim 45, are well-known in the art for such beverage dispensing machines used in airplanes. In addition, such drawers which lock in two positions, as recited in claim 58, are also well-known in the art.

Claims 60 and 64 are amended to overcome the examiner's rejection.

As to claims 73-76, such method steps relate to and further limit the operation

of the recited structures of the apparatus, such as the activation and deactivation of solenoid valves 104, 106, 107, 108, and 111 recited in claims 73-76, respectively.

Similarly, claim 84 recites and further limits operation of recited structure, such as the passage of water through or into various components, such as the hole 25b, the coil 24e, the hole 24c, etc.

With regards to claim 85, the subject matter is not redundant, since claim 85 is a multiple dependent claim which further limits both claim 45 and claim 84 by incorporating the limitations of claim 84, which are not present in claim 45, into the subject matter of claim 45.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of these claims under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, is respectfully requested.

The allowance of claims 78-83 is gratefully acknowledged.

CONCLUSION

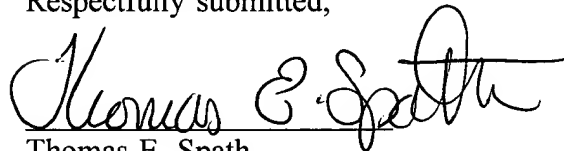
Entry and approval of the present amendment and allowance of all remaining pending claims is respectfully requested in view of the above information and arguments.

EXTENSION OF TIME

A Petition for a three-month extension of time is attached along with a check for the official fee.

In case of any deficiencies in fees by submission of the present amendment, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such deficiencies in fees to Deposit Account Number 01-0035.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas E. Spath", written over a horizontal line.

Date: May 20, 2003

Thomas E. Spath
Reg. No. 25,928
Attorney for applicants
ABELMAN, FRAYNE & SCHWAB
150 East 42nd Street
New York, NY 10017-5612
(212) 949-9022

VERSION OF THE CLAIMS
WITH AMENDMENTS INDICATED

60. (Amended) Machine according to claim 45, [which] wherein the heater (22) is able to supply steam.

64. (Amended) Machine according to claim 56, in which the water connector (18) and the electrical connector (20) are, respectively, the Hansen 2KLF16^(TM) water connector compatible with airplane galleys, and the ITT-Canon MS3106A-16S-1P^(TM) electrical connector compatible with airplane galleys.